

is going on more or less according to schedule. I do not know about a few days delay here or there. As stated in the answer, there had been delays but we caught up with the delays.

Shri Geray: Is it proper for the Prime Minister of another country to advise us as to what steps should be taken by us to expedite the work?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is completely proper—It is not a question of advice—considering that this scheme, in its inception and working, is a joint Indo-Soviet scheme in which the Prime Minister of the Soviet Union has taken a great deal of interest. He wrote a personal letter to me. It was a personal letter he wrote after seeing the Chief Engineer and others. I think it was not only a proper thing, I appreciate it.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know whether the letter, which the Prime Minister received, mentioned certain aspects of delay or whether it was a general letter? What was the nature of that letter?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot go into that personal and confidential letter in this way in answer to a question.

Shri Aurebindo Ghosal: May I know if the delay was on our part or on the part of the engineers from Russia?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: If the House wants to know, it was neither on our part nor on their part, it was on the contractor's part.

Border Violation by Portuguese Army

*6. **Shri Assar:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Portuguese Army fired on the 28th, 29th and 30th December, 1958 on the Indian Border near Banda, Sawant-wadi, District Ratnagiri, and

(b) if so, the details of the incident and the action taken by Government?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) and (b). Government have received no reports to show that these incidents occurred on days and places mentioned.

Shri Joachim Alva: May I know on which side these attacks take place generally? Is it Belgaum side, Karwar side or Ratnagiri side? May I also know why the military police are not called in when the civilian police fail to repel these attacks?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The answer was that there were no such reports.

Mr. Speaker: There have been no reports and no incidents. How can there be defence?

Shri Vajpayee: May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the Press reports that a large amount of smuggling is going on on this border and, if so, what steps have been taken to stop that smuggling?

Mr. Speaker: It does not relate to that. This relates to certain border incidents and not to smuggling.

Shri Vajpayee: Incidents arise out of smuggling.

Shri Nath Pai: Are the Government aware that of late there have been efforts on the part of the armed Portuguese naval units to interfere with Indian fishermen legitimately fishing in Indian waters near Daman?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I want notice of a separate question.

Ambar Charkhas

*7. **Shri Keshava:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) the number of Ambar Charkhas distributed in Mysore State during 1958-59 so far

(b) the number of Charkhas which are in operation,

(c) the total quantity of yarn produced there from, and

(d) whether weavers refuse to use this yarn with the result that the same remains un'old?